GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4866
ANSWERED ON:26.04.2000
PRODUCTION IN UNIRRIGATED LAND
ARUN KUMAR;SHANKERSINH VAGHELA

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have estimated the production rate achieved in irrigated area and unirrigated area of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof for the last three years;

(c) whether unirrigated agricultural land in the country is more than the irrigated agricultural land;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Government have taken any steps to give stress on research work to increase the production rate in unirrigated land; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

(SHRI SBPBK SATYANARAYANA RAO)

(a)&(b) The Government have not made any official assessment of production rate of crops separatelyfor irrigated and non-irrigated area at all-India level.

(c)&(d) Out of a total net area sown of 142.8 million hectares, not irrigated area in 1996-97 was 55.1 million hectares.

(e)&(f) A comprehensive programme on dry land research has been formulated by ICAR (IndianCouncil of Agricultural Research). Following are some of the major research achievements in this area:

? Delineation of the potential area suitable for mono-cropping, intercropping and double-cropping across the dry and double-cropping across the dry farming zones of the country. ? Formulation of contingent crop plans and management strategies to deal with the late onset, intermittent breaks and early withdrawal of monsoon rains. ? Tillage during off-season to increase crop yields on Alfisols. ? Deep tillage (20-30cm) and alfisols to increase yields depending upon the seasonal rainfall and crop duration. ? Use of organic mulches to reduce evaporation losses of soil-stored water, increase stability and sustainability of crop yield particularly of rabi crops. ? Identification of the most efficient crops and their varieties for different agro-climatic regions based on a continuous evaluation and screening of released crop genotypes. ? Identification of efficient and remunerative intercropping and double cropping systems for different agro-climatic regions with emphasis on pulses and oilseeds.